

## Removal of scale

### Internal Treatment

- \* colloidal conditioning
- \* phosphate conditioning
- \* calgon conditioning
- \* sodium aluminate

### External Treatment

#### Demineralization process

#### zeolite process

### Internal Treatment (or) Internal conditioning (or) Boiler compounds:

An internal treatment is accomplished by adding a proper chemical to the boiler water.

The scale forming substance were not completely removed by external treatment. So the chemicals are added directly into the boiler to remove scale forming substance. The chemicals are also called as boiler compounds.

Important internal treatment methods:

- (a) colloidal conditioning
- (b) phosphate conditioning
- (c) calgon conditioning
- (d) sodium aluminate conditioning

#### (a) colloidal conditioning:

Scale forming substance  $\xrightarrow{\text{Agar-Agar / Kerosene/Tannin}}$  scale forming substance  
[adherent nature] [Non-adherent/soft precipitate]

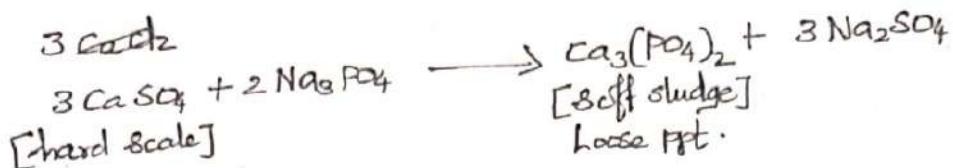
In low pressure boilers, scale formation can be avoided by adding organic substance like kerosene tannin, agar-agar etc... These substance get coated over the scale forming precipitates and change them into non-sticky and loose deposits.

These loose precipitates can be removed by blow down operation

### (b) Phosphate conditioning:

In high pressure boilers, scale formation can be avoided by adding sodium phosphate.

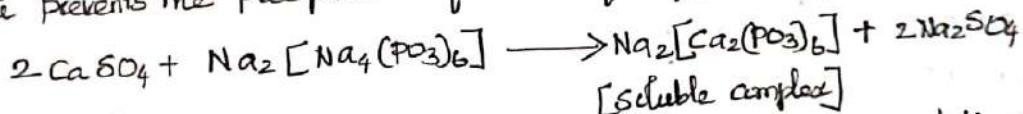
The phosphate reacts with calcium and magnesium salts to give soft sludges of calcium and magnesium phosphates.



phosphate	Nature	Usage
$\text{Na}_3\text{PO}_4$	Alkaline	Alkalinity of boiler water is low
$\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$	weakly alkaline	Alkalinity of boiler water is adequate
$\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4$	Acidic	Alkalinity of boiler water is too high.

### (c) Calgon conditioning:

Calgon is sodium hexa meta phosphate  $\text{Na}_2[\text{Na}_4(\text{PO}_3)_6]$ . This substance interacts with calcium ions forming a highly soluble complex and thus prevents the precipitation of scale forming salt.



\* The complex  $\text{Na}_2[\text{Ca}_2(\text{PO}_3)_6]$  is soluble in water and there is no problem of sludge disposal.

\* So, calgon conditioning is better than phosphate conditioning.

### (d) Carbonate conditioning:

i) Carbonate conditioning is used for low pressure boilers.

ii) Here the salts like  $\text{CaSO}_4$  are converted to easily removable  $\text{CaCO}_3$ .

iii) But in high pressure boilers, the excess  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  undergoes hydrolysis and is converted to  $\text{NaOH}$ .

iv) It leads to caustic embrittlement and boiler corrosion. So it is less preferred.

